

Equality Impact Assessments (EqIA) Form

December 2023

Sections in this form:

- Section 1 – Details of the service, service change, decommissioning of the service, strategy, function or procedure
- Section 2 - Information – What do you know?
- Section 3 - What did people tell you?
- Section 4 - Review of information, consultation feedback and equality analysis
- Section 6 - Monitoring and Review
- Section 5 - Justification, Mitigation and Actions
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This form should be completed in conjunction with reading the EIA Guidance.

You can also complete online at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/wbceiaform2021



Equality Act 2010

Section 1 – Details of the service, service change, decommissioning of the service, strategy, function or procedure

Title of the EqIA	Draft Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (2023)
Assessment Lead Officer	David Acton (Senior Planning Policy Officer)
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Telephone Number	01925 442841
Directorate	Growth
Department	Planning Policy and Programmes Team
Date of Assessment	13th December 2023
Details of the service, service change, decommissioning of the service, strategy, function or procedure.	<p>The Planning Policy and Programmes Team are responsible for the Council’s statutory local planning policy functions. This includes, but not exclusively; producing documents such as the Local Plan, Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD), Development Frameworks, and planning policy monitoring documents.</p> <p>The purpose of the SPD is to supplement the policies of the Council’s Local Plan 2021/22 – 2038/39 (the Local Plan), by providing additional detail on the implementation of the adopted Local Plan policies in relation to securing the required planning obligations to ensure the impacts of development are appropriately mitigated and the required supporting infrastructure is secured and delivered in a timely manner.</p> <p>The Local Plan Core Strategy 2014 has now been replaced with the Local Plan 201/22 – 2038/39. Therefore, there is also now a need to update the Planning Obligations SPD 2017 (which was based on policies within the Local Plan Core Strategy 2014), in line with the policies contained within the Local Plan 2021/22 – 2038/9.</p>
Who is Affected?	In this instance, the SPD is expanding on planning policies within the Local Plan, which is Borough wide in its coverage, and so covers all the residents in the Council’s administrative area.

<p>Links and impact on other services, strategies, functions or procedures.</p>	<p>By the nature of the topics covered in the Council’s Local Plan, the SPD clearly has links to other Council services/strategies. However, the SPD will help in the implementation of the strategies for a number of service areas across the Council. For example, it will help in securing and delivering housing and the required supporting infrastructure to accompany the growth set out in the Local Plan and in doing so contribute to strategies prepared by the Council’s Housing, Transportation, Education and Public Health services. Therefore, whilst there are clearly links to other areas of Council services/strategies, any identified impacts are considered to be positive in nature, rather than negative.</p>
<p>How does the service, service change, strategy, function or procedure help the Council meet the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty?</p>	<p>The SPD is currently at a draft stage and will be subject to statutory consultation. The EqIA and the SPD itself will be updated to take into account the responses to the consultation. The SPD has been produced to supplement the recently adopted Local Plan, which has already been through the Equality Impacts Assessment (EqIA) process at the relevant stages of development, with the most recent iteration of the EqIA being available to view from the link below:</p> <p>https://www.warrington.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-09/equality_impact_assessment_form_-_august_2021.pdf</p> <p>The EqIA for the Local Plan confirmed it is able to make a positive contribution to the Council’s Equality Objectives – Equality Objectives and Strategy 2020-2024.</p> <p>https://www.warrington.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-01/edi_strategy-objectives_2020-2024_final.pdf</p>

Section 2 - Information – What do you know?

What information (qualitative and quantitative) and/or research have you used to commission/change/decommission the service, strategy, function or procedure?	
Information Used	<p>The Local Plan 2021/22 – 2038/39 has already been through the EqIA process at the relevant stages of development. The SPD expands on policies of the Local Plan and therefore many elements of the SPD will have already been assessed. In addition, the Local Plan went through a process of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) at various stages of its development, where identified social, economic and environmental considerations have been established and assessed as part of the plan making process.</p> <p>In addition to the SA, the Local Plan is also supported by a robust and extensive evidence base, that has been tested through the examination process by independent Government appointed Inspectors.</p> <p>Given the above, the most relevant information at this stage is the extensive range of evidence used in support of the development and examination of the Local Plan, available to view from the link below:</p> <p>https://www.warrington.gov.uk/local-plan-examination</p>
Gaps in Information	It is not considered in light of the information set out above that there are any gaps in information or research to support the SPD, but this will be assessed again following consultation.

Section 3 - What did people tell you?

What consultation and engagement activities have you undertaken and what did people tell you? Is there any feedback from other local and/or external regional/national consultations that could be included in your assessment?	
Details and date of the consultation/s and/or engagement activities	<p>Consultation on the Draft Environmental Protection SPD will commence on 13th December 2023 and end on 07th February 2024 at 5.00pm.</p> <p>However the Local Plan, with this SPD expanding upon policies contained within it, has been through several extensive rounds of statutory public consultation (between 2016 and 2023), and an independent Examination in Public, held by two appointed Government appointed Planning Inspectors.</p>

	<p>The Report of Consultation for the Local Plan can be viewed from the link below:</p> <p>SP6 - Responding to Representations Report for Submission (Reg 22c) (warrington.gov.uk)</p>
<p>Gaps in consultation and engagement feedback</p>	<p>It is not considered at this stage, given the extensive consultation/examination details set out above, that there are any gaps in consultation and engagement. However, although no gaps have been noted as part of this assessment in relation to specific categories, it should be noted that public consultation will be undertaken on the SPD and this may raise issues officers are not currently aware of. The EqIA will be reviewed and updated, where necessary, once the initial consultation has taken place.</p>

Section 4 - Review of information, consultation feedback and equality analysis

Protected characteristics groups from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know? Summary of information used to inform the proposal including demographic information.	What did people tell you? Summary of customer and/or staff feedback	What does this mean? Impacts identified from the information and feedback (actual and potential). These can be either positive, negative or have no impact.
Age	<p>We have reviewed the EqIA for the Local Plan and the extensive Local Plan consultation Database, as this SPD is supplementing adopted Local Plan policies.</p> <p>The Open Space, Sport & Recreation Assessment 2023, and the various reports therein, outline the current levels of provision of open space, playing pitches and built sports facilities and future needs. Specific consideration is given to the needs of young people.</p> <p>The Local Plan Local Housing Needs Assessment (LHNA) 2021 identifies an affordable housing need of 433 homes per annum up to 2038. The LHNA identifies that 25% of new homes per annum should meet older persons housing needs and that an additional need for 1,053 bed spaces of extra care provision per annum should be provided.</p>	<p>We have reviewed consultation responses from the Local Plan consultation and taken them in to account in the preparation of this SPD. This SPD will be subject to its own consultation and the content of this EqIA will be updated to take into account this consultation.</p>	<p>Positive Impact – The SPD will supplement Local Plan Policy DC5 - Open Space, Outdoor Sport and Recreation Provision and the site allocation policies. These look to ensure that existing open space is protected and that new open space, play facilities, sport and recreation facilities are provided to support new development. All site allocations have requirements to provide new open space and contribution to recreation facilities. This will help to provide children of all ages with equal opportunities for sport and recreation.</p> <p>Positive Impact - The SPD will supplement Local Plan Policy DEV2 Meeting Housing Needs. This requires that affordable homes will be provided on sites of 10 or more dwellings providing 20% affordable on Inner Warrington sites including the Town Centre and 30% on sites elsewhere. The policy also specifies that on sites over 10 dwellings,</p>

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	<p>The LHNA also identifies an apparent constraint on the formation of younger households due to affordability constraints.</p> <p>The Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) confirms the additional school capacity and health facilities that are required to support the level of growth proposed in the Local Plan.</p>		<p>purpose built homes for older people should be provided. To support flexibility in housing as occupants age the policy also requires that all new dwellings are built to building regulation M4(2) 'Accessible and Adaptable dwellings' and 10% to M4(2) 'Wheelchair Adaptable'.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 supports the provision of supported and extra care homes in accessible locations and affordable housing in the case of developments where self contained units are proposed. 25% of affordable homes will need to be First Homes' for new younger entrants into the housing market.</p> <p>Positive Impact – The SPD will supplement Local Plan Policy INF5 Delivering Infrastructure and the site allocation policies. INF5 seeks to ensure that new development contributes to new and improved infrastructure. This includes providing contributions to expand existing school provision. All of the site allocations include a requirement to contribute towards school places. This will have a positive benefit with young people having</p>

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			easy access to a school in proximity to where they live.
Carers	<p>We have reviewed the EqIA for the Local Plan and the extensive Local Plan consultation Database, as this SPD is supplementing Local Plan policies.</p> <p>The LHNA (2021) recognises that an ageing population will lead to a greater proportion of elderly people with disabilities, and this is likely to result in an increase in dependent adults, in addition to dependent children in the Borough.</p>	<p>We have reviewed consultation responses from the Local Plan consultation and taken them in to account in the preparation of this SPD. This SPD will be subject to its own consultation and the content of this EqIA will be updated to take into account this consultation.</p>	<p>By supplementing Policies in the Local Plan, the SPD may have indirect benefits for carers of children and dependent adults.</p> <p>Local Plan Policy DEV2-Meeting Housing Needs requires that all new dwellings are built to building regulation M4(2) 'Accessible and Adaptable dwellings'. In addition 10% of new housing in the policy should meet Building Regulation M4(3) for dwellings to be designed to be wheelchair accessible, or easily adaptable. Dwellings are also expected to meet National Space Standards and provide outdoor amenity space for residents to promote good physical and mental health for residents.</p>
Disability	<p>We have reviewed the EqIA for the Local Plan and the extensive Local Plan consultation Database, as this SPD is supplementing Local Plan policies.</p> <p>The LHNA (2021) identifies that 17% of the population of the Borough have a long- term health problem or disability and that around 15%</p>	<p>We have reviewed consultation responses from the Local Plan consultation and taken them in to account in the preparation of this SPD. This SPD will be subject to its own consultation and the content of this EqIA will be updated to take into account this consultation.</p>	<p>Positive Impact – The SPD supplements Local Plan Policy DEV2 Meeting Housing Needs. This requires that all new dwellings are built to building regulation M4(2) 'Accessible and Adaptable dwellings'. In addition 10% of new housing in the policy should meet Building Regulation M4(3) for dwellings to be designed to be wheelchair</p>



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	of new households will require wheelchair accessible housing.		accessible, or easily adaptable. Dwellings are also expected to meet National Space Standards and provide outdoor amenity space for residents to promote both good physical and mental health for residents in their homes. This is a positive impact based on the Local Plan Policies and the SPD.
Gender reassignment	We have reviewed the EqIA for the Local Plan and the extensive Local Plan consultation Database, as this SPD is supplementing Local Plan policies.	We have reviewed consultation responses from the Local Plan consultation. This SPD will be subject to its own consultation and the content of this EqIA will be updated to take into account this consultation.	No Impact.
Pregnancy and maternity	We have reviewed the EqIA for the Local Plan and the extensive Local Plan consultation Database, as this SPD is supplementing Local Plan policies.	We have reviewed consultation responses from the Local Plan consultation. This SPD will be subject to its own consultation and the content of this EqIA will be updated to take into account this consultation.	Potential Positive Impact – In ensuring the delivery of new and improved health facilities the SPD may have a positive impact on pregnancy and maternity.
Race/ethnicity	The representation of ethnic groups in Warrington derived from the 2011 Census is provided below:	We have reviewed consultation responses from the Local Plan consultation and taken them in to account in the preparation of this SPD.	Potential Positive Impact – The SPD supplements Local Plan Policy INF5 Delivering Infrastructure. This provides the opportunity to provide additional

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Religion or belief	<p>The representation of Faith Groups in Warrington derived from the 2011 Census is provided below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Number</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Christian</td> <td>144,405</td> <td>71.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Buddhist</td> <td>457</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hindu</td> <td>1,118</td> <td>0.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jewish</td> <td>147</td> <td>0.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Muslim</td> <td>2,097</td> <td>1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sikh</td> <td>361</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other religion</td> <td>513</td> <td>0.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No religion</td> <td>41,293</td> <td>20.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Religion not stated</td> <td>11,837</td> <td>5.9</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Number	%	Christian	144,405	71.4	Buddhist	457	0.2	Hindu	1,118	0.6	Jewish	147	0.1	Muslim	2,097	1.0	Sikh	361	0.2	Other religion	513	0.3	No religion	41,293	20.4	Religion not stated	11,837	5.9	We have reviewed consultation responses from the Local Plan consultation and taken them in to account in the preparation of this SPD. This SPD will be subject to its own consultation and the content of this EqIA will be updated to take into account this consultation.	<p>Potential Positive Impact – The SPD supplements Local Plan Policy INF5 Delivering Infrastructure. This provides the opportunity to provide additional community facilities.</p> <p>This may provide facilities for use by specific religious / belief groups.</p>
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Sex/Gender			No Impact.																														

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Sexual orientation			No Impact.
Marriage and civil partnership			No Impact.

Section 5 - Justification, Mitigation and Actions

Mitigation	What can you do? Actions to mitigate any negative impacts or further enhance positive impacts
The EqIA will be reviewed and amend if required ahead of the final version of the SPD, depending on the representations received during the first round of public consultation that will commence on 13 th December 2023 and end on 07 th February 2024 at 5.00pm.	No negative impacts identified at this stage.

Section 6 - Monitoring and Review

How will the impact of the service, service change, decommissioning of the service, strategy, function or procedure be monitored? How will actions to mitigate negative impacts be monitored? Date for review of the EIA	
Details of monitoring activities	The EqIA will be reviewed and amend if required ahead of the final version of the SPD, depending on the representations received during the first round of public consultation that will commence on 13 th December 2023 and end on 07 th February 2024 at 5.00pm.
Date and responsible officer for the review of the EIA	This EqIA is the first stage of the assessment in relation to the first draft of the Planning Obligations SPD. The EqIA will therefore be reviewed and updated by a relevant officer to reflect consultation responses as necessary.

Section 7 - Sign Off

Name	Signature	Date
Michael Bell Planning Policy and Programmes Manager	<i>Michael D. C Bell</i>	13th December 2023